

FORECLOSURE TAX RELIEF ACT

(Mr. BISHOP of New York asked and was given permission to address the House for 1 minute.)

Mr. BISHOP of New York. Mr. Speaker, I rise tonight as a proud cosponsor of the Foreclosure Tax Relief Act. I commend its cosponsor, my colleague from Ohio, Mr. SPACE, as well as the chairman of the Ways and Means Committee, Mr. RANGEL, for agreeing to take up legislation that would give a tax break to middle-class homeowners who have been caught up in the subprime mortgage fallout.

Nearly 3,000 homeowners in Suffolk County, New York alone, that's one out of every 180 homes in my district, have joined 2.2 million families nationwide whose subprime loans have already failed or will end in foreclosure. Adding insult to injury, they face massive tax bills once any portion of their mortgage is cancelled. The IRS treats that forgiven debt as income and can even tack on interest and penalties.

In response to this unfair phantom tax, the Foreclosure Tax Relief Act would set the tax exclusion for middle-class families up to \$50,000 in forgiven debt on first mortgages and primary residences. Therefore, I urge my colleagues to support foreclosure tax relief legislation.

GLENVIEW GOOD GUYS

(Mr. KIRK asked and was given permission to address the House for 1 minute and to revise and extend his remarks.)

Mr. KIRK. Mr. Speaker, 2 weeks ago an incredible act of bravery took place in my district. Last Saturday, three high school students were stopped at a train crossing in Glenview, Illinois. At 8:30, as Glenbrook South High School senior Tom Foust and sophomores Tyler Brown and Zach Demertzis reached the intersection, they noticed an 83-year-old woman in her vehicle stopped on the tracks. It was clear the car was stuck, spinning her tires in the gravel.

At that moment, warning bells rang. The three young men rushed to the car and tried to help her move it. They didn't know how quickly the train was coming, at 79 miles an hour. When the woman did not leave, Tom reached in the vehicle and unclipped her seat belt. He pulled her out and got only 10 feet from the southbound train when it demolished the car, spraying glass and metal everywhere. The car was pushed into the northbound tracks and was immediately hit again by another train going in the opposite direction.

No one on the ground was injured. Tom, Tyler, and Zach saved this woman's life. I know I speak for the entire 10th District when I say how proud we are of the Glenview Good Guys, new heroes. Our community is very lucky to have them.

RECOGNIZING AND HONORING LINDA LOIZZO, NORTH MIAMI BEACH CHIEF OF POLICE

(Ms. WASSERMAN SCHULTZ asked and was given permission to address the House for 1 minute and to revise and extend her remarks.)

Ms. WASSERMAN SCHULTZ. Mr. Speaker, I rise tonight to recognize City of North Miami Chief of Police, Linda Loizzo. Linda is a true trailblazer. She has served the North Miami Police Department for more than 33 years in a number of capacities: deputy chief, assistant chief of operations, major in charge of administrative services, commander in charge of the investigative division, and supervisor of several special support services units.

Linda was the first woman promoted to the rank of sergeant, the first woman promoted to rank of lieutenant and major, and the first woman promoted to the rank of chief of police for the North Miami Beach Police Department. Chief Loizzo not only broke down walls in a male-dominated profession, but she also shattered and crumbled stereotypes for women in all professions, and particularly those in law enforcement.

I congratulate Chief Loizzo on her retirement and thank her for her dedicated service to our community.

HONORING THE LIFE OF SPECIALIST DANE R. BALCON

(Mr. LAMBORN asked and was given permission to address the House for 1 minute.)

Mr. LAMBORN. Mr. Speaker, I rise today to honor the life of Specialist Dane R. Balcon, who passed away on September 5, 2007, in Balad, Iraq, in support of Operation Iraqi Freedom. Specialist Balcon died of injuries sustained when an improvised explosive device detonated near his vehicle. Dane's mother, Carla, resides in Colorado Springs, Colorado, and his father, John, lives in Miami, Florida.

From an early age, Dane dreamed of the opportunity to serve his country. His path to the military began at Sand Creek High School in Colorado Springs, where he joined the Army ROTC program. The assistant principal at Sand Creek remembered Dane as an outstanding person and someone who had an absolute love for the military and serving his country. Immediately following graduation, Dane enlisted in the Army.

Specialist Balcon comes from a proud tradition of military service. Both his mother and father served in the military. I am grateful for their service and their selfless dedication to this great Nation.

Specialist Balcon was a remarkable soldier and a devoted son who honorably served the Nation he loved. Making the ultimate sacrifice, he died protecting our freedom and security.

I thank him, Specialist Dane R. Balcon, for his service to our country,

and I offer my deepest, heartfelt condolences to his family.

HONORING THE LITTLE ROCK NINE

(Ms. JACKSON-LEE of Texas asked and was given permission to address the House for 1 minute.)

Ms. JACKSON-LEE of Texas. Mr. Speaker, I rise today enthusiastically and very humbly to honor the Little Rock Nine in the 50th year of the very brave nine young men and women who exemplified courage to stand for what is right in America, and that is equality and justice and the opportunity for all to be educated.

Armed with a Federal Court order on September 23, 1957, these children went off to Little Rock High School. Turned back by a protest and viciousness, they then went with Federal troops given to them by President Dwight D. Eisenhower. Their names were Minnijean Brown, Elizabeth Eckford, Ernest Green, Thelma Mothershed, Melba Pattillo, Gloria Ray, Terrence Roberts, Jefferson Thomas and Carlotta Walls.

I support the legislation. And although it is not the same, we now need Federal intervention for the Jena Six. We need justice for these young people. We need to be able to understand that these children are now being treated as the children were treated some 50 years ago.

Justice for Little Rock Nine and justice for Jena Six.

SPEAKING OUT AGAINST THE U.S.-PERU FREE TRADE AGREEMENT

(Ms. LINDA T. SÁNCHEZ of California asked and was given permission to address the House for 1 minute.)

Ms. LINDA T. SÁNCHEZ of California. Mr. Speaker, I am pleased to join my colleagues in speaking out against the U.S.-Peru Free Trade Agreement. This is not a choice between trade and protectionism. It is a choice between fair trade, which can benefit working families across the Nation, and unfair trade, which benefits the wealthiest few at expense of the rest of us.

I cannot support, and I urge my colleagues not to support, this Bush-negotiated Peru Free Trade Agreement. It uses the same North American Free Trade Agreement model that has already failed working families here and abroad.

I feel like I am at a used car lot and the dealer is trying to sell the American people a beat-up old lemon with a new paint job. Well, we learned with NAFTA that there are no refunds for the American people when they are sold a bad bill of goods.

Let's learn from our mistakes and reject this Peru FTA junker. The American people deserve trade that works for working families, and the Peru FTA won't give us that. Vote "no" on the Peru FTA.